

REMARKS

The courtesies extended by Examiner Miller in the telephone interview of September 21, 2005 are noted with sincere appreciation.

In the Office Action, claims 1-6 and 15-22 were rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-13 of U.S. Patent 6,622,868. A Terminal Disclaimer is submitted herewith, which overcomes this ground of rejection.

Claims 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. By this response, claim 17 has been amended to address the language noted by the Examiner as giving rise to this rejection. The Examiner's careful review of the claim language is noted with appreciation.

Claim 22 was also rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. The Examiner expressed the view that the subject matter of claim 22 appears to conflict with the subject matter of claim 21. By this response, claim 22 is amended to eliminate any lack of clarity so as to overcome the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph.

Claims 1, 15-17, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Bolton U.S. Patent 5,259,955. Claims 1, 15, 16 and 19 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by European Patent Application Publication No. 567208. Claim 1 was also rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Bolton U.S. Patent 5,839,142.

Claims 2 and 18 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, with an indication that such claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 21 was indicated as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 USC

§112, second paragraph, and to include all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this response, claim 2 is amended to independent form, including all limitations of claim 1. In view of the Examiner's indication of allowability, it is thus believed that claim 2 is in allowable form. Claims 3-14 depend directly or indirectly from claim 2, and are thus also believed allowable. In this regard, it is noted that claim 2 is generic to all of the disclosed species of the invention, so that claims 7-14 are properly reinstated for consideration along with generic and allowable claim 2.

Claim 1 has been amended along the lines discussed in the phone interview. Specifically, claim 1 is amended to call for means interconnected with a support for imparting movement to the screen through the support. Claim 1 further states that movement of the screen varies the one or more impingement locations while the fluid is directed outwardly onto the inside surface of the screen by the fluid supply arrangement.

As discussed in the phone interview any movement of the screen in the Bolton '955 and '142 reference is caused by pressure of the fluid that impinges on the inside surface of the screen. In both of the Bolton references, the screen is stationary and the fluid shower rotates within the interior of the screen. As the shower apparatus rotates, the fluid strikes the inside surface of the screen and any resulting screen movement is simply deflection of the screen resulting from the force of the streams of fluid that strike the screen. The same holds true for the European '208 reference, in that the screen is held stationary and any movement of the screen is simply deflection of the screen caused by impingement of the fluid on the screen during movement of the shower arrangement.

In contrast to the disclosures of the cited references, the present invention contemplates movement of the screen through the frame arrangement, so as to vary the locations at which the fluid streams impinge on the inside surface of the screen. In this manner, the present invention provides a significant degree of screen flex, which is believed to dislodge the fine particulate matter that may be entrapped in the screen and to

allow it to pass through the screen, while retaining the usable fibers on the inside surface of the screen.

For the above reasons, claim 1 as amended is believed to patentably define over the references. New claims 29-41 are added, and depend directly or indirectly from amended claim 1. New claims 29-41 contain similar limitations to those of original claims 2-14, respectively. Claims 29-41 are thus believed allowable for the above reasons set forth with respect to amended claim 1, as well as in view of the subject matter of each claim.

Claim 15 has been amended along the same lines as claim 1, to state that movement of the screen is caused by movement of the support while directing the fluid onto the surface of the screen to vary the location at which the fluid is directed onto the surface of the screen. For the same reasons noted above with respect to claim 1, it is believed that claim 15 also patentably defines over the references, and is allowable. Claims 16, 17, 19-27, 55 and 56 depend directly or indirectly from claim 15, and are believed allowable for the above reasons as well as in view of the subject matter of each claim.

Claims 18 and 21 have been amended to independent form, in each case incorporating the subject matter of the base claim and any intervening claims. In view of the Examiner's indication, it is thus believed that claims 18 and 21 are also in allowable form.

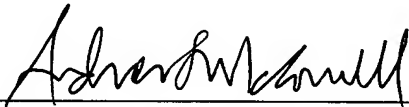
Claim 28 has also been amended along the same lines as amended claim 1. For the reasons noted above with respect to claim 1, it is thus believed that claim 28 also patentably defines over the references, and is allowable.

Claims 42-56 have been added, and depend directly or indirectly from amended claim 28. Claims 42-56 also contain limitations similar to those found in original claims 2-14, respectively. Claims 42-56 are thus also believed allowable for the above reasons, as well as in view of the subject matter of each claim.

Applicant's attorney has made every effort to place the application into condition for allowance with claims 1-56, and such action is earnestly requested.

The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by phone if questions remain after consideration of this response, or if such would otherwise facilitate prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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